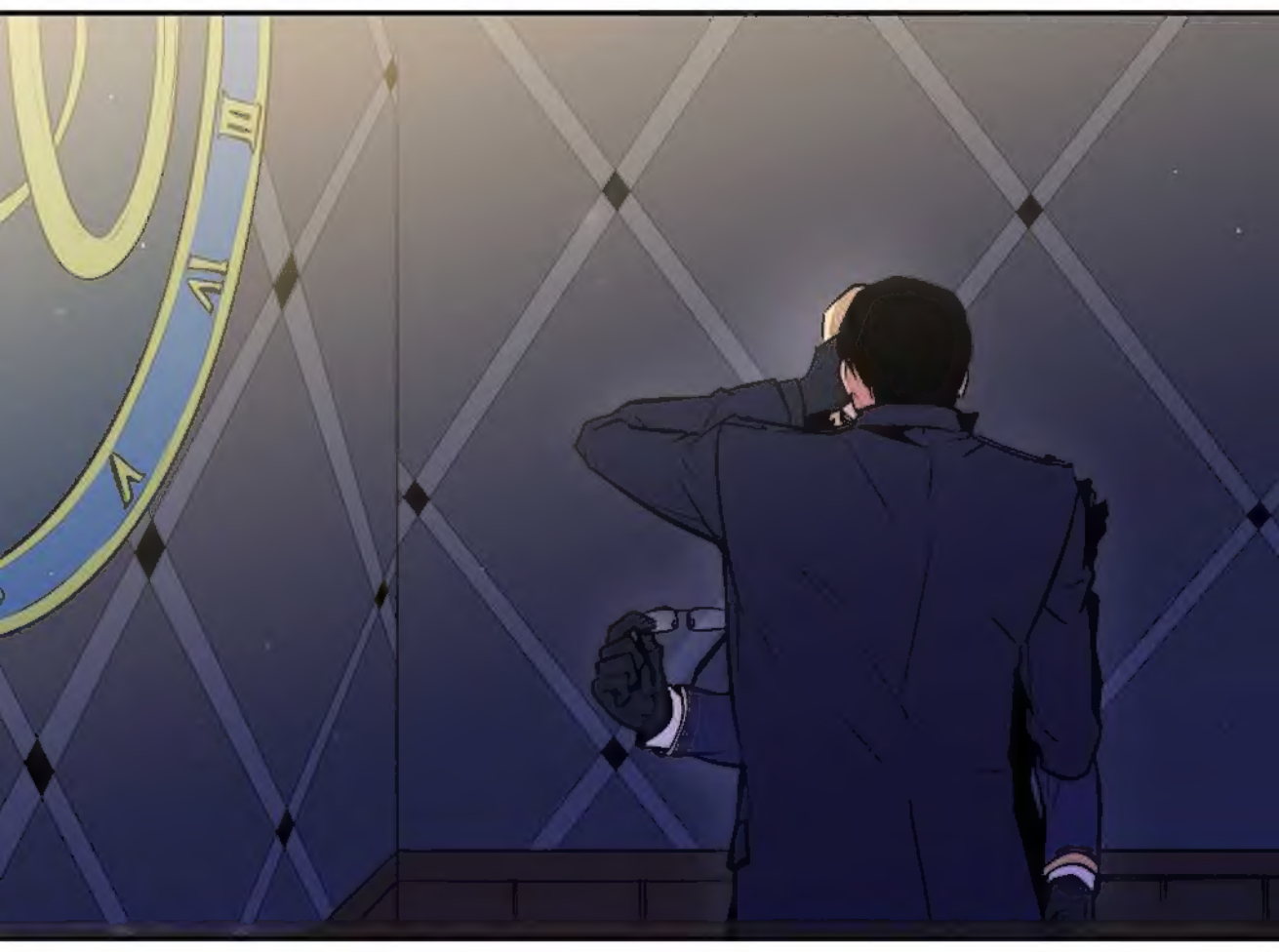
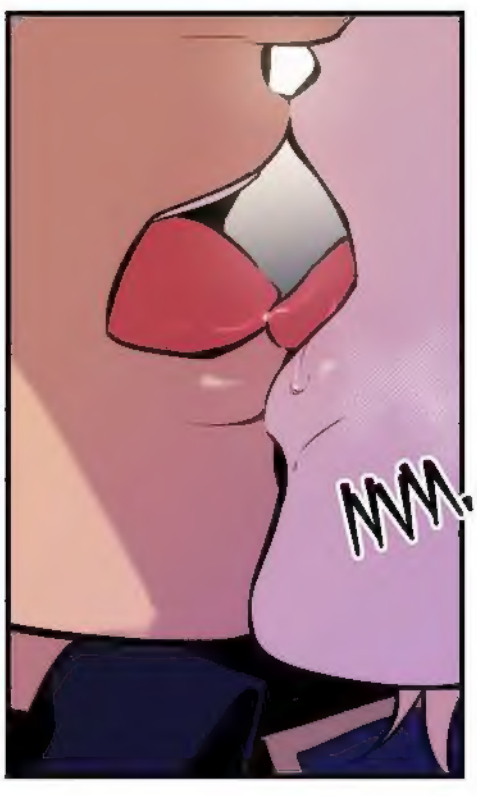
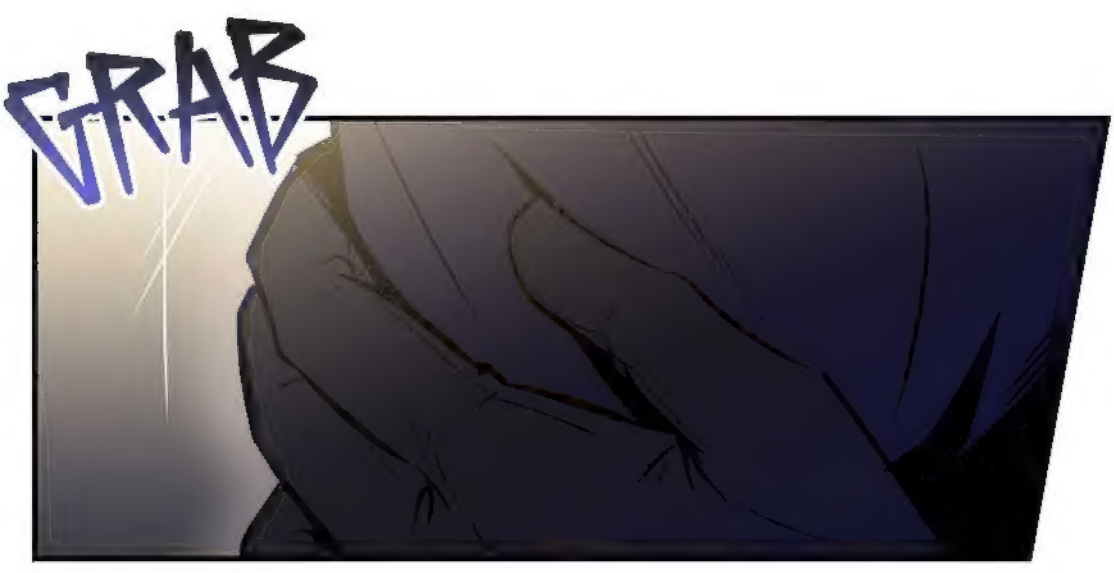



MM...

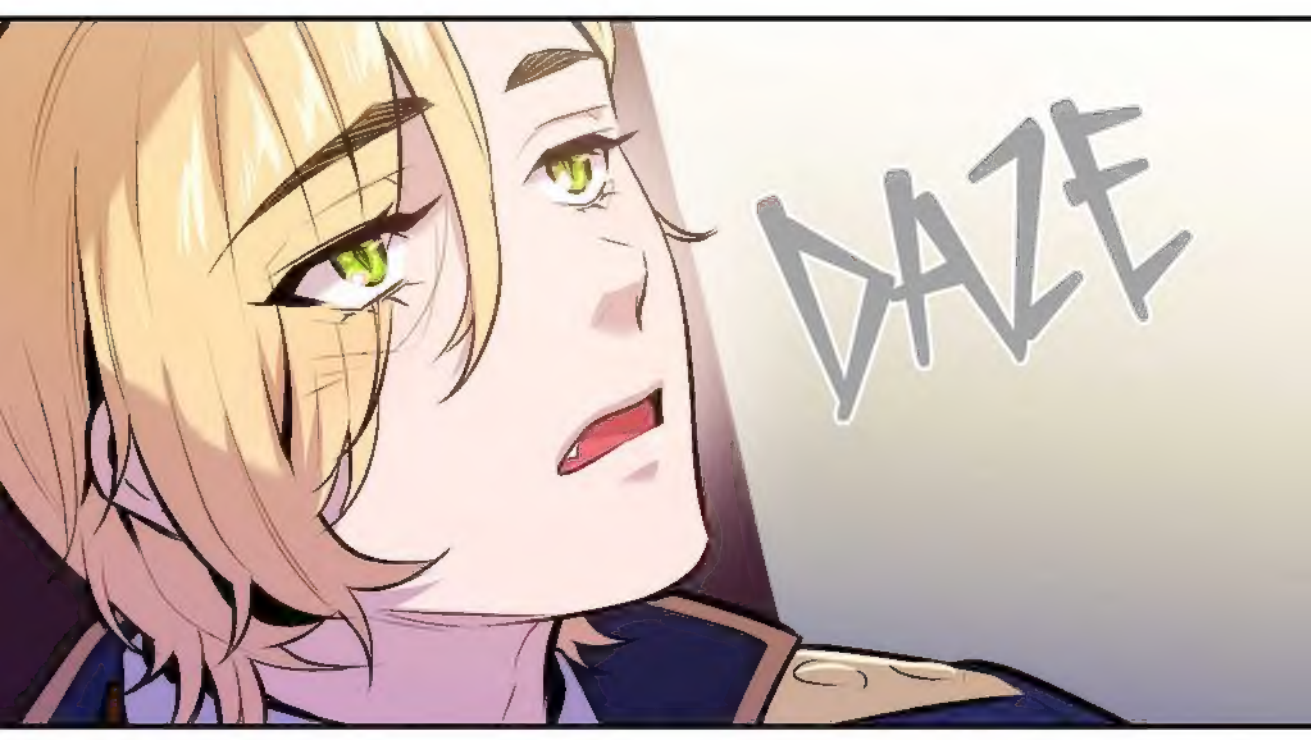
... ...
PANT...
PANT...
AH,
HUH...?
PANT...
ONE...


GRAB

BLOOD BANK

second chapter
masquerade

– play 28 –



REFER TO PLAY 14

KNOCK KNOCK

MASTER SHELL. IT'S THE BRANCH MANAGER.

AH!

C-COME IN.

BANG

WHAT CAN I-

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

ARE YOU REALLY...

...PLANNING TO TAKE THAT BANKER TO THE ANNIVERSARY PARTY?

YEAH. I THOUGHT I MADE THAT CLEAR?

DO YOU REALLY NEED TO DOUBLE CHECK?

THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE!

YOU CAN'T TAKE A HUMAN BANKER TO SUCH AN IMPORTANT EVENT!

YOU'LL BE THE LAUGHING STOCK OF THE BLOOD LORDS!

ALSO, IF YOUR FATHER PAIN OVERLORD FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS...!

...MANAGER.

FLINCH

YOU DARE TALK ABOUT MY FATHER IN FRONT OF ME...?

I HEARD YOU'RE GOING TO THE PARTY?

WOW, THAT'S AMAZING!

MASTER SHELL MUST REALLY LIKE YOU.

I-IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. WHY WOULD HE...

NO WAY. YOU'RE AMAZING. YOU WERE GOOD AT THIS JOB FROM THE BEGINNING, AND YOU NEVER FORGET ANY OF THE VAMPIRES'

YOU ALWAYS GET A GREAT PERFORMANCE REVIEW.

HOW EMBARRASSING...

PLUS, I KNOW EVERYTHING.

EVERYONE SAYS YOU'RE TAKING MY CUSTOMERS AWAY FROM ME...

BUT I KNOW IT'S JUST THE CUSTOMERS WITH STRONG PHEROMONES BECAUSE YOU KNOW HOW SENSITIVE I AM TO IT.

EVEN WHEN YOU WERE BEING BLAMED FOR MY MISTAKES...

YOU DIDN'T HATE ME AT ALL...

...YOU ALWAYS HELP OTHER PEOPLE WITHOUT WANTING ANYTHING IN EXCHANGE.

YOU SEE ONE...

...THAT PART OF YOU... I REALLY...

-AH!

OOPS, I LEFT A FEW DOCUMENTS BEHIND.

SORRY, NINE! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

DASH

...THAT COWARD.

LOOK AT HIM RUN AWAY FROM SOMETHING SO OBVIOUS.

ALL HE CARES ABOUT IS HIS OWN SUCCESS.

DON'T MIND HIM. PEOPLE LIKE HIM DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYONE ELSE. I KNOW.

...NAH.

THAT'S NOT IT.

I'LL TELL HIM AGAIN WHEN HE'S BACK FROM THE PARTY.

!

WHAT...

...

YOU'RE...

AN IDIOT.

CLACK

CLACK

STEP

SIGH...

...I'M NOT THE PERSON YOU DESCRIBED.

I'M NOT,

NINE.

CLACK

HELLO!

YOU'RE BACK EARLY.

BOW

BRANCH MANAGER...

YOU YOURSELF SHOULD KNOW THE ONLY REASON MY FATHER MADE YOU DISTRICT MANAGER DESPITE YOUR WEAK PHEROMONES WAS BECAUSE OF YOUR ABILITY.

THEN ARE YOU REALLY QUESTIONING MY TREATMENT OF SOMEONE WHO DESERVES WHAT YOU YOURSELF RECEIVED?

I'M THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THIS BANK.

IF YOU REALLY MUST QUESTION A JUDGEMENT I MADE ACCORDING TO MY FATHER'S PRINCIPLES...

I'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RETHINK YOUR OWN POSITION HERE!

CLENCH

...I THOUGHT YOU WERE ONLY GOOD AT BANKING, BUT IT SEEMS YOU'RE TALENTED AT OTHER THINGS TOO.

EH?

I NEVER THOUGHT THE YOUNG MASTER WOULD HAVE SUCH LOW TASTES.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE LIKED BY A FUTURE BLOOD LORD?

DOES IT FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BECOME AN ART?

CLACK

CLACK

DISGUSTING.

CLACK

CLACK

...HUH?

I CAN'T...

MOVE?

TREMBLE

I'M GOING TO BE DEVOURED...

MY WHOLE BODY'S TELLING ME...

IF THAT THING TURNS AROUND, I'LL BE SWALLOWED WHOLE...

...I'LL BUY YOU A SOUVENIR WHILE I'M THERE.

CLACK

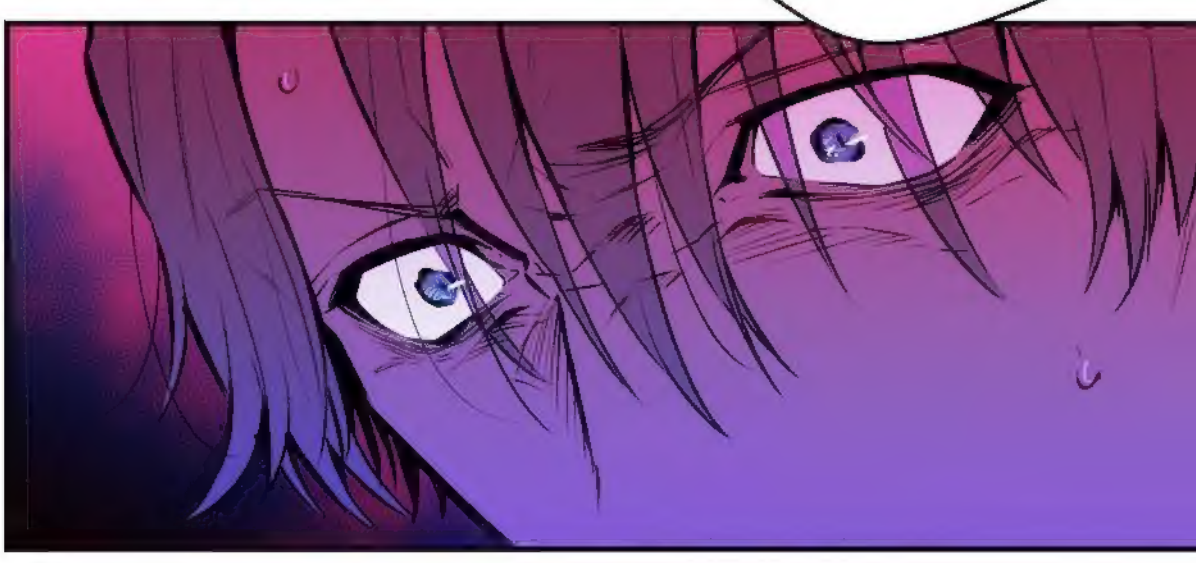
CLACK

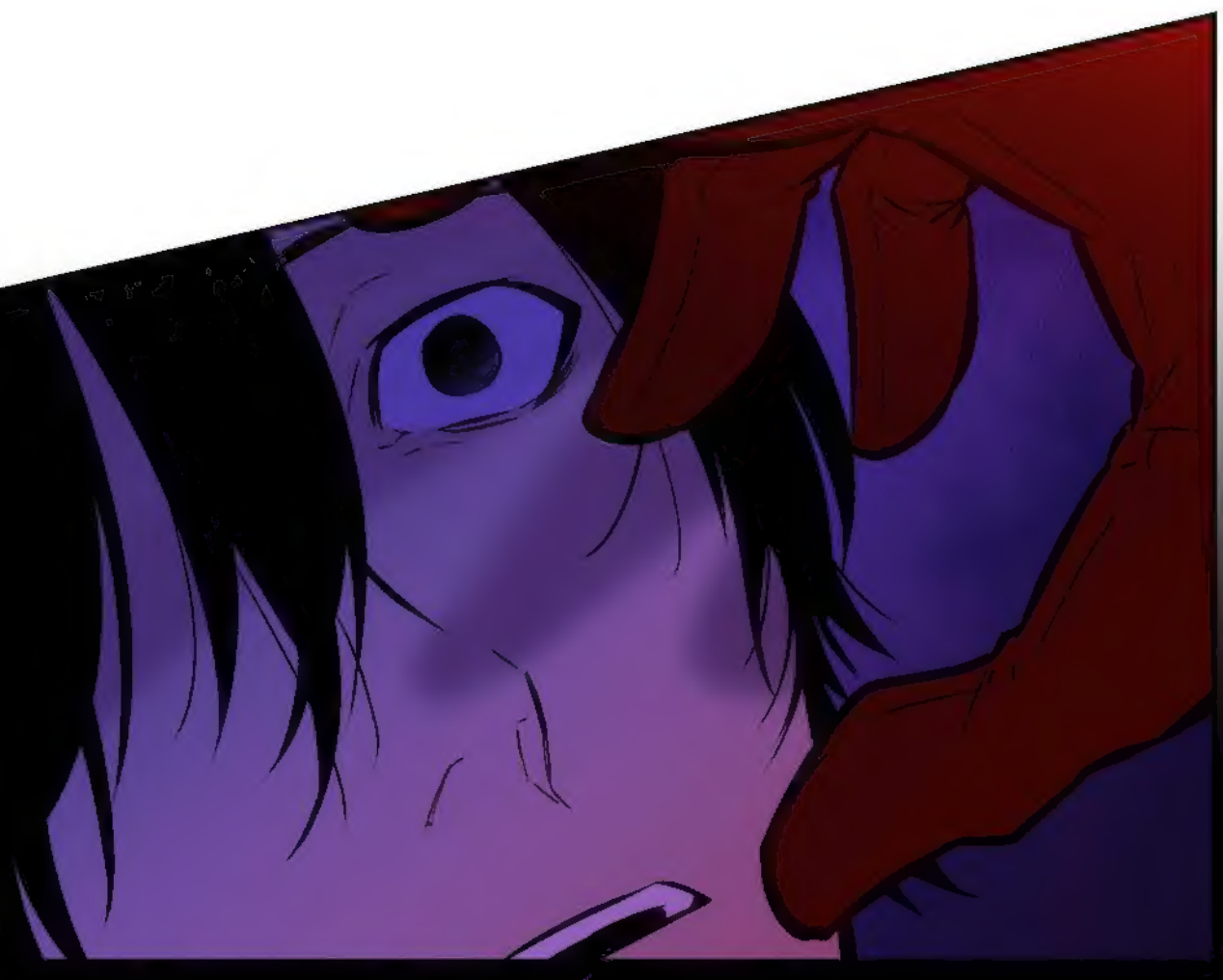
B

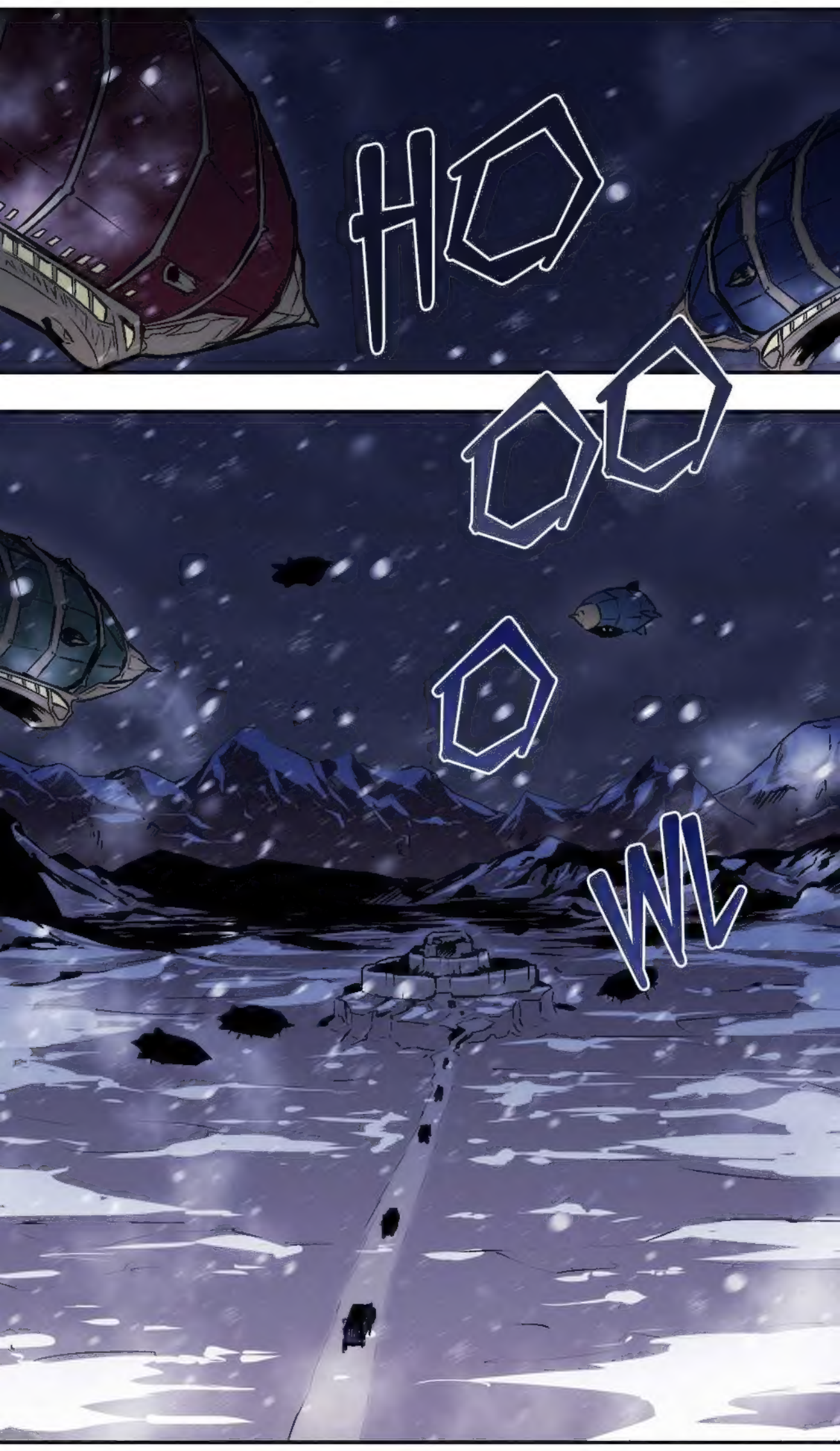
HA!

TO A MERE...

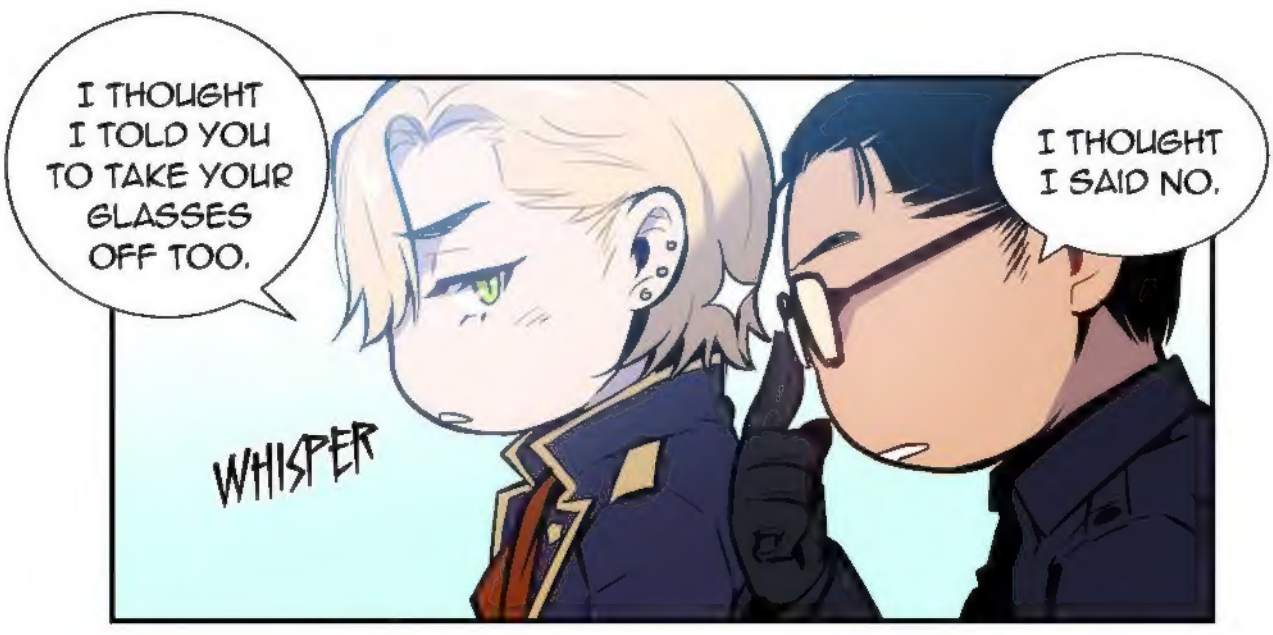
HUMAN...

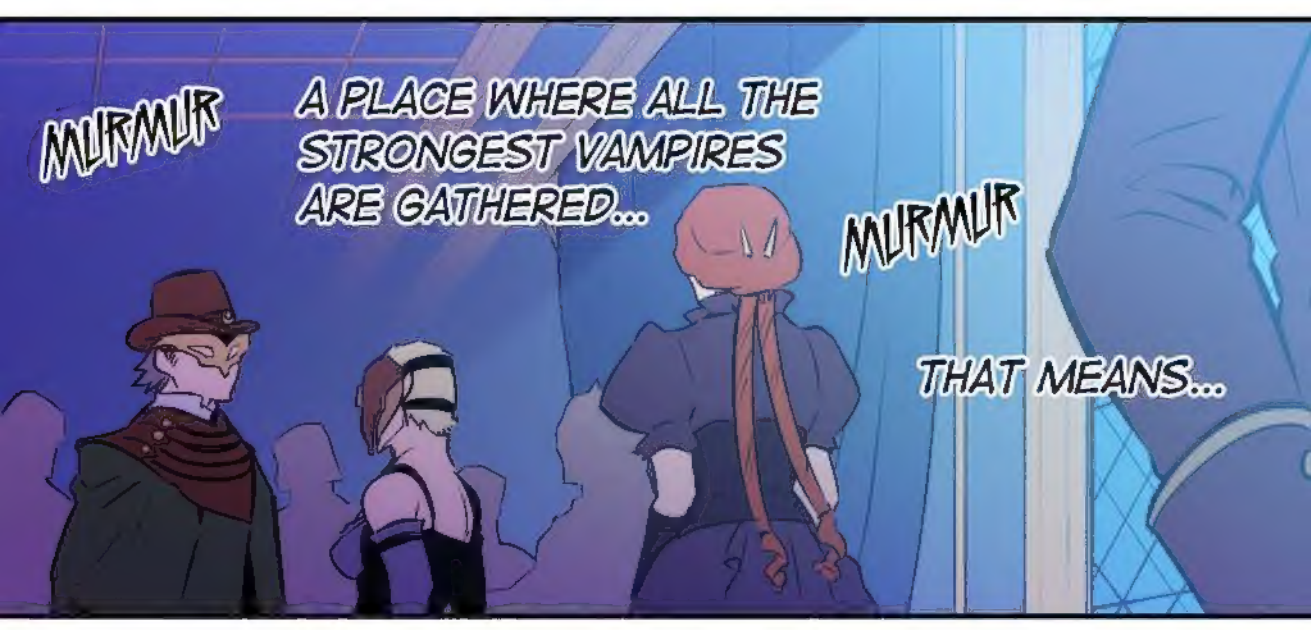


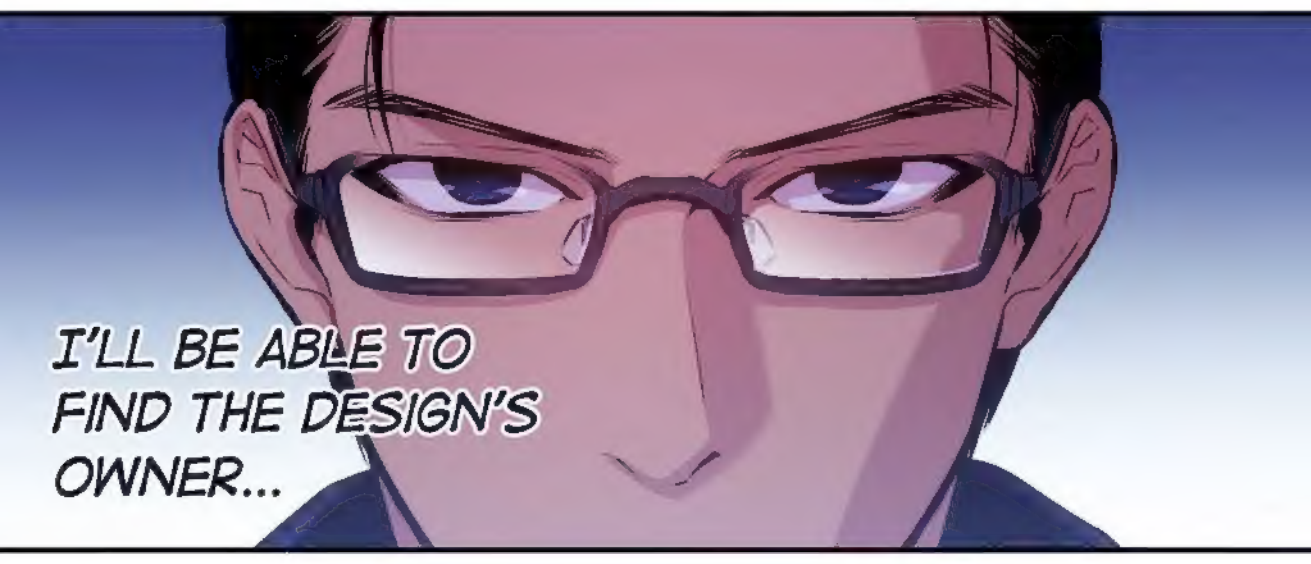



HO
OO
WL

ssss







To be continued!

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